

Isaiah 5:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Analysis

Divine anger ('the anger of the LORD is kindled') manifesting in 'stretched forth' hand depicts active judgment. The imagery of corpses as refuse in streets shows death's degradation—unburied bodies denied dignity. The refrain 'his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still' (repeated in 9:12, 17, 21; 10:4) emphasizes unrelenting judgment until repentance occurs. This sustained divine wrath demonstrates that judgment isn't arbitrary passion but settled response to persistent rebellion.

Historical Context

Assyrian invasions brought mass casualties, with bodies left unburied. The ongoing 'stretched out hand' warned of worse to come if repentance didn't occur.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does understanding divine anger as settled disposition rather than emotional outburst affect our view of judgment?
2. What does the persistence of God's 'stretched out hand' teach about the thoroughness of discipline?

Interlinear Text

עַל H5921	יָן H3651	קָדָה H2734	אֶפּוֹ H639	יְהוָה H3068	בְּעַמּוֹ H5971
		kindled	For all this his anger	of the LORD	against his people
		וְנִטְּוָה: H5186	יָדוֹ H3027	עַל יָדוֹ H5921	וַיִּכּוּ H5221
		and he hath stretched forth	but his hand	against them and hath smitten	
וַיִּרְגְּזוּ H7264	וְהִימָוִת H2022	וְהִימָוִת H1961	וְהִימָוִת H5038	וְהִימָוִת H5478	וְהִימָוִת H7130
did tremble	them and the hills	and their carcasses	were torn	in the midst	
וְהִימָוִת H2351	וְהִימָוִת H3605	וְהִימָוִת H2063	וְהִימָוִת H3808	וְהִימָוִת H7725	וְהִימָוִת H639
of the streets	is not turned away	For all this his anger			
וְהִימָוִת H5750	וְהִימָוִת H3027	וְהִימָוִת H5186			
but his hand	and he hath stretched forth				

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 10:4 (Parallel theme): Without me they shall bow down under the prisoners, and they shall fall under the slain. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isaiah 9:21 (Parallel theme): Manasseh, Ephraim; and Ephraim, Manasseh: and they together shall be against Judah. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

Isaiah 9:17 (References Lord): Therefore the Lord shall have no joy in their young men, neither shall have mercy on their fatherless and widows: for every one is an hypocrite and an evildoer, and every mouth speaketh folly. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.

2 Kings 9:37 (Parallel theme): And the carcase of Jezebel shall be as dung upon the face of the field in the portion of Jezreel; so that they shall not say, This is Jezebel.

Jeremiah 4:24 (Parallel theme): I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly.

Daniel 9:16 (References Lord): O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain: because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people are become a reproach to all that are about us.

Psalms 18:7 (Parallel theme): Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations also of the hills moved and were shaken, because he was wroth.

Jeremiah 16:4 (Parallel theme): They shall die of grievous deaths; they shall not be lamented; neither shall they be buried; but they shall be as dung upon the face of the earth: and they shall be consumed by the sword, and by famine; and their carcases shall be meat for the fowls of heaven, and for the beasts of the earth.

Nahum 1:5 (Parallel theme): The mountains quake at him, and the hills melt, and the earth is burned at his presence, yea, the world, and all that dwell therein.

1 Thessalonians 2:16 (Parallel theme): Forbidding us to speak to the Gentiles that they might be saved, to fill up their sins alway: for the wrath is come upon them to the uttermost.